

A full and True

R. 1437

ACCOUNT OF THE

Barbarous and Cruel usage of Mr. George Willington, Midshipman on Board the *Faulkland* Man of War; Which having taken a Prize call'd the *Lafine*, Richly Laden from the *West-Indies* with several Persons of Quality and Passengers on Board. The Lieutenant, George Titsdon, Mr. Willington, and several others were put on Board the said Prize, who for some secret grudge toward the said Mr. Willington beat and bruis'd him so Barbarously, that he L and Dy'd, and was buried in *Stepney* Yard, and taken up on *Wednesday* the 27th. of *September*, and Open'd by the *Jury* of *Surgeons*, who depos'd up the Lieutenant to have been the his Death.

Licenced according to Or

LONDON, Printed and Sold
in *Black-Fry*



A Full and True Account of the Barbarous and Cruel Usage of Mr. Geo. Willington, Midshipman on Board the *Faulkland* Man of War; &c.

*Tis strange to think what Elevations and haughty
thoughts Preferment creates in some Peoples
Minds, and how proudly; nay sometimes barba-
rously, they behave themselves towards those,
whose meanner Fortunes have plac'd them be-
low 'em, and as it were ty'd their Hands from
righting the Injuries and Indignaties put upon
'em by their Supersors; As this Tragical Rela-
tion may inform us.*

IT happened that the Wife of Mr. Willing-
ton (as is usual with Sailors Wives) when
this Prize came to Harbour went on board
to Congatulate her Husbands return, where she
stayed till next day: But she upon some Occa-
sion as it was well Light, espy'd the Captain
Leiustenant going off with his Boat with Goods
in it, and was so unhappy to her self as to speak
of it before several in the Ship in the following

Words, viz. *Gentlemen, the Captain Lieutenant*
is gone off with the Boat betimes this Morning
pritty well Laden.

This being told to the Captain Lieutenant upon his Return, and the Woman being gone, the Captain Lieutenant call'd for this *Willington*, and spoke thus to him; *Sirrah, I'll make you suffer for your Wives tongue*; thereupon beat him Extreemly to that Degree that he bled as well Outwardly as Inwardly, he being fallen along, he bid him get up, or he would give him asmuch more, you need not do that said this *Willington*, for you have done my Business already.

But coming sometime after and seeing him lye still in the place, beat him till he forc'd him to Rise and make his Escape from him into the Boat which was just going a shore, and so convey'd himself to a Friends house, and from thence sent the Captain a Letter, which though the same was not of his own Hand, yet he assur'd the Captain that it was of his own Dictating, wherein he let him know that his Merciless blows had Incapacitated him for ever coming on board again, and as the same would be his Death, he laid the same to his Charge.

He lived some days after he sent the Letter, but the day before he died he declared he was not sick at all, yet believed he should dye, there being something unusual about his Stomach,

which the next Morning depriv'd him of Life,
he same Rising very suddenly up into his
throat, and was so violent that it forced his
eyes to start out of his Head.

Being Dead, his Wife laid all upon the Cap-
tain, who was the Cause of his Death, and
would have the Corroner to sit upon the Corps
of her Husband, as being fully resolved to Pro-
secute the Captain for his Death, and in order
hereunto desir'd the Beadle to go for the
Corroner, giving him Mony for his trouble;
but the Beadle whether prevailed upon
otherwise, or of his own Head, used his ut-
most endeavours to diswade her from her Reso-
lution, with telling her that the Captain wou'd
Ruin her, which having Insinuated into the
Woman, that she was somuch wrought upon as
to Consent to proceed to his Interment, which
was accordingly perform'd in *Stepney Church-*
yard.

As soon as the same was done the Captain
Lieutenant gave out threatening Expressions,
saying, that the Woman his Wife had Poison'd
him, and now would charge him with his death,
and now seeing she had privately buried him he
would clear himself of so foul a scandal, and
hereupon would have the Corps taken up a-
gain and Search'd, and Employing a particular
Friend of his own in the matter: The Corroner
was sent for and two peculiar Surgeons, were

spoke to for the Opening the body of the Deceased, and the Chirurgeons being so Diligent of Attendance presented themselves before any of the *Jury* or the *Coroner* himself at the *Red-Bull*, where the Corps were brought unto, over against the Church which was the place Inserted in the Warrant for the *Jury* to Repair, so the *Chirurgions* upon their first coming Ordered the Coffin to be unnailed, that they might forthwith open the Deceas'd which had been Interr'd some Days. But a Friend of the Widowes being present told the *Chirurgions* with some Vehemency that the Coffin should not be Opened till the *Jury* came, and caused the same to be done, and therefore bid them open it at their Peril, so that in some uneasiness they forbore till the *Coroner* and the *Jury* came, in the mean while a Friend to the Deceas'd who suspects there might be Connivance and Treachery by Bribery, himself being privy to the ill Treatment of his Deceas'd Friend, and therefore would not have his Blood sold at such unequal Terms, provided the *Chirurgions* of the Colledge to come to the Opening of the Body, which was done by them preferable to the other *Chirurgions*, and in the same was found a Large Cake of Blood congealed about his heart, and thereupon the three *Chirurgions* or *Physicians* gave it their Opinion that some Extream violence had been done to the Corps.

when Living which still Retained some visible Symptoms of Blows or Strokes which had Occasioned the said Cake of Blood, and was the Immediate cause of his Death.

One Surgeon would fain have smooch'd the matter over by pretending his Liver grew to his Stomach, and several idle excuses.

His Head was swell'd to an unspeakable bigness ; and every part almost had its share of his Cruelty, who notwithstanding his Bottles of Brandy and Napkin of Sugar sent into the *Bull* to treat the Jury with, will tishop'd, by sad experience find how dear and how precious every Man's Life must be to him when he's sure of Loosing his own. This not being the First Blood he has Spilt, *having cruelly forc'd a Seaman to jump over-board to avoid his Anger who perish'd unavoidably.*

With this the Jury was well satisfied, and accordingly all of them Agreed to a Verdict of Murder, one person only Excepted, who was so Refractory as not to Cohere with his Brethren to make an unanimous Verdict, Before which several Witnesses were called and Examined and amongst them several of the Passengers which gave an Indifferent or modest Evidence. But this may be noted that the Person that had been so Instrumental to assist the Captain Leivetenant as an Evedence for him, brought in the Whip which the said Captain Leivetenant made use of saying these words, *viz.* Was this like to kill a man ? Let me see it says the Coroner, who Wrapping the

thing about his hand said to him. I wish you
that seem to Ridicule the Real fact and manner
of this deceased's Death, I tell you that this
man might knock your Brains out of your head.
But what was most Remarkable, was that the
same person that was so Obstinate not to consent
to the Murder of the Deceas'd, after the For-
man had demanded that the Capt. Leivetenant
be taken up when the bringing in their Verdict,
'twas Defer'd, the said person was one of the
Jury, so that whether this *Jury-man* was partial
or impartial in the matter, will be best known
at the Trial of the said Capt. Leivetenant, at
the next Sessions at the *Old Baily*, to which we
Refer you.

Note, A Tradesman living in *Redlion-street* near
Goodman's Fields, was on Board when this Inhumane
Barbarity was transacted, and is ready at any time to de-
clare, that it was so far from being the effects of Heat
or Passion, that to his knowledge 'twas Revenge and
Premeditated Malice.

'Tis hardly wish'd every good Body, or at least those
whom it may Concern, would look better into the Ma-
nagement of Beadles in General, for 'tis almost impossi-
ble to think what Knavery, what Cruelties, and what
Murders are oftentimes Conceal'd by their underhand
dealing.

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